

## REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 5 and 9-10 have been amended. Claims 7-8 have been cancelled. Claims 1-6 and 9-21 are pending and under consideration.

The §102 rejection of claims 5-10 is respectfully traversed. Independent claim 5 recites wherein if the printing position is just before the overfeeding position, the dummy nozzles print a width corresponding to the overfeeding amount together with the nozzles printing the normal printing area. Thus, the normal printing area and the overfeeding amount are printed. These features are shown, for example, in present FIG. 5(II). In contrast, FIG. 40 of Ogasahara discloses that the normal ejection ports print less when there is a sheet feeding error (right side) as compared with the normal ejection ports when a sheet feeding error does not occur (left side).

The §103 rejection of claims 1-4 and 11-21 is respectfully traversed because the Examiner's combination is not proper. The Examiner relies upon paragraph [0006] of Yamasaki as teaching the requisite motivation. This portion teaches that the degree of precision of the paper feed has a great effect on the image quality. This paragraph goes on to state that the effect of variation in the paper feed position has been minimized by appropriately selecting the paper feed amount. Thus, this reference teaches that it is desirable to control the paper feed amount.

However, the Examiner does not rely upon Yamasaki as teaching controlling the paper feed amount. Instead, this reference is relied upon as teaching storing the characteristic overfeeding amount and overfeeding position. Office Action, p. 4. Since storing the information does not necessarily indicate controlling the feed amount, this reference does not teach that storing the overfeeding amount can improve image quality. Thus, the reference does not teach the motivation, as set forth by the Examiner.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

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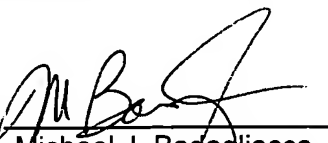
If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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